

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**November 13, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

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The Academic Standards Review Commission met for a Regular Meeting on Friday, November 13, 2015, at 1 p.m. in the State Board of Education Board Room, 301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh.

At 1 p.m., Andre Peek called the meeting to order. The following members were present:

Andre Peek, Co-Chair, Wake  
Dr. John T. Scheik, Wake  
Bill Cobey, Durham  
Dr. Jeffrey Isenhour, Catawba  
Katie Lemons, Stokes

Tammy Covil, Co-Chair, New Hanover  
Dr. Olivia Oxendine, Robeson  
Jeannie Metcalf, Forsyth  
Dr. Laurie McCollum, Rockingham

Jo Herrera, Commission staff

Absent: Denise Watts (Mecklenburg), Ann B. Clark (Iredell)

Under Approval of Minutes, Andre Peek made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2015. Jeannie Metcalf and Tammy Covil seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Under Old Business, Item A: Dr. John “Ted” Scheik confirmed that the Math report is nearly completed---an indication that it may be incorporated into the writing of the draft of the final report. Andre Peek acknowledged that the ASRC will take the recent recommendations by the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCCTM) into consideration. Ted Scheik noted that the NCCTM had made arguable, philosophical points, and that there were errors in NCCTM’s criticism.

Under Old Business, Item B: Dr. Olivia Oxendine spoke of the ELA’s current task of corralling various data and feedback into its final report. Oxendine also confirmed, with assurances from the Commission, of the internal circulation of the first full draft of the Final Report by December 1<sup>st</sup>. The agreement among Commissioners is to commit to an internal review of the document and after which, feedback will determine the revisions, if necessary. Revisions to the first full draft are expected to be completed before Commissioners vote on the final recommendations during the December 18, 2015 board meeting.

Under Items for Information: Commissioners discussed the remaining timeline, the need to define standards in the final report, and the intent to consider guidelines recently offered by Sen. Tillman (over the phone) and Rep. Pittman (in person), and to follow-through with Sen. Horn as well.

Rep. Pittman came up to the microphone to address the ASRC, and reminded the group that he and Rep. Speciale have kept themselves abreast of, and in support of the work of the ASRC since the beginning, and offered their willingness to assist further.

Under Presentation, Dr. Tammy Howard, Director of Accountability Services at the Department of Public Instruction, addressed questions posed by members of the Commission on standardized testing scores. The Commission had made a request for data on previous years' test scores prior to the board meeting, and Dr. Howard and her colleague, Dr. Curtis explained the data from the NAEP to the ASRC.

Ted Scheik repeatedly pointed out that the test scores have gone down, and that the DPI representatives were not answering his questions on this.

Dr. Jeff Isenhour pointed out that North Carolina has "created a standardized culture that is worthless data instead of a diagnostic culture that would be able to give feedback to how students are progressing."

Oxendine offered her theory that, "NC standards were pretty rigorous in 2007 through 2012" and that, "perhaps teachers had a better understanding of the standards."

DPI representatives commented that NC had adopted "very high standards in the hope that our students" would live up to them. Following a substantive Q&A between the ASRC and the DPI, Andre Peek suggested that the DPI return with more documentation to respond to the ASRC's questions on testing scores.

Under New Business, no matters were raised.

Under Announcements, Co-Chairs publicized the following meeting:

- The next Academic Standards Review Commission board will meet on December 18, Friday, 1-5 p.m. in State Board of Education Board Room, 301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh.

At past 3:00 p.m., Andre Peek made a motion to adjourn. Jeannie Metcalf and Laurie McCollum seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.